

NAMIBIA ANGLICAN COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION
(NACDO)
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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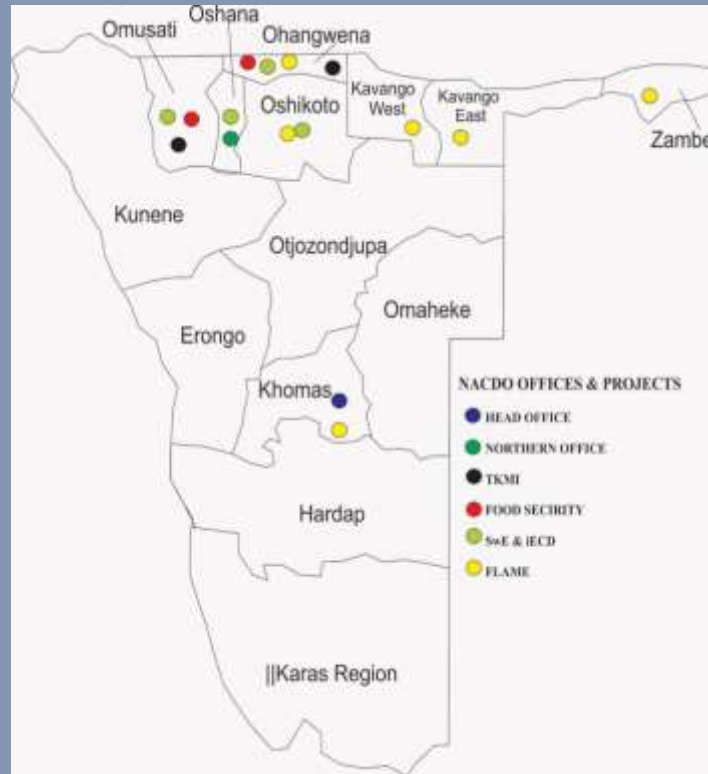
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<p>Introduction (About NACDO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Namibia Anglican Community Development Organization (NACDO) is an affiliate of the Anglican Diocese of Namibia. NACDO is a registered welfare organization under the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS), welfare registration number: W.O.71. 	<p>The Mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NACDO’s mission is to collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and individuals at local, national, and international levels to assist individuals to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit, holistically; to assist in ending diseases like HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria as well as to work to eradicate hunger and poverty.
<p>The Vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NACDO’s vision is derived from the Anglican vision and promise that: future generations will be born and live-in countries free from preventable diseases, poverty, inequality, and all other social ills. Therefore, we commit ourselves to breaking the silence, educating ourselves, confronting poverty, ending stigma, building capacity, providing leadership, skills, care, prevention, and counselling, and providing better livelihoods and improving the quality of life in the communities we serve. 	<p>The Core Values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Faith and hope ❖ Individual full potential ❖ Non-Discrimination ❖ Respect of individuals’ dignity, values, history, and religion ❖ Fairness, transparency, and accountability

Where we are

- NACDO unevenly implements all four projects in Kavango East & West, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Zambezi regions.



What we do

Faith Leader Advocacy for Malaria Elimination (FLAME)

Namibia Faith Leader Advocacy for Malaria Elimination (FLAME)

comprises Coalitions of leaders from diverse faiths driven to improve and sustain the health and well-being of Namibians affected by malaria.

Established in March 2021, the project catalyzes the formation of technically competent interfaith coalitions of religious leaders to advocate for the:

- Adoption of policies and strategies that accelerate malaria elimination
- Implementation of policies and strategies that accelerate malaria elimination
- Necessary funding for these policies

FLAME Coalitions are comprised of a central-level coalition and five subnational coalitions from the Regions with the highest malaria transmission including Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Oshikoto and Ohangwena Regions. The work of FLAME Coalitions aligns with the Namibia Malaria Strategic Plan (NMSP) and faith leaders work closely with the multisectoral Malaria Elimination Task Forces (METF) within regional government structures. The FLAME Namibia project is implemented through the Namibia Anglican Community Development Organization (NACDO), a welfare organization registered as an affiliate and of the Anglican Diocese of Namibia.

NACDO PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

TKMI - SBCC project key highlights 2023

- ❖ TKMI-SBCC focuses on changes in social behavior communication currently underway in 92 communities within Oshikango, Odobe, Omundaungilo, and Oshikunde Constituency. The project has been operational in the Omusati region, specifically in Etayi and Outapi constituencies, for the past ten years, starting in 2014. It employed 15 Field Workers (FWs) and 153 Volunteers until its conclusion in March 2023. As of now, SBCC has 25 Community Health Workers (CHWs) and 119 active Community Malaria Volunteers (CMVs) on the ground. They engage in house-to-house malaria education and conduct community meetings on malaria transmission, prevention measures, and the importance of seeking early treatment.

Expansion of the SBCC work in Ohangwena region

- ❖ SBCC's work has been expanded to the malaria hotspots within the border areas of the Ohangwena region to extend interventions to the areas with the most need. A total of 38 villages alongside the borders of Ohangwena have been added. So far, 49 CMVs and 15 CHWs have been trained to conduct house-to-house malaria education and to perform malaria rapid testing and treatment of uncomplicated cases of malaria at the community level.

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House to house visits

CHWs and CMVs conducted house-to-house malaria education in all TKMI-SBCC areas of operation. A total of 46,563 people within 19,520 households have been engaged and given malaria education at the household levels, including 2 constituencies that ended in March 2023. Currently, SBCC has 119 CMVs and 25 CHWs operating in 92 communities within 5 constituencies in the Ohangwena Region. A total of 101 people were referred to health facilities due to fever; however, only 53 people managed to seek treatment.

Clergy training/ workshop (New areas)

- ❖ SBCC conducted a workshop/training for clergy members from 30 different denominations in Odobe, Omundaungilo, and Oshikunde Constituency. SBCC engaged with 29 clergies to introduce the program and educate them on malaria prevention and transmission. Clergies are influential figures in the community, capable of reaching many people simultaneously. Having undergone malaria training, they conveyed malaria-related messages through their sermons, contributing to the increased dissemination of malaria awareness in the communities.



IRS mobilization meetings and Launching

- ❖ Based on the MoHSS IRS report, it was reported that some people/households refused to accept IRS, and many rooms were left locked during the 2022 IRS campaign. MoHSS collaborated with partners such as NACDO, Regional Councilors, and DAPP to organize IRS mobilization meetings in malaria hotspot villages in the Ohangwena region ahead of the IRS launch. A total of 10 hotspot villages were visited in Ongenga, Oshikango, Odobe, and Omundaungilo constituencies. The MoHSS team, along with Flame, TKMI, DAPP, and Regional Councilors of Ongenga and Okongo Constituency, joined forces to educate the community about the dangers of malaria and encourage community members to accept IRS for the upcoming 2023 IRS campaign, which commenced from December 11, 2023, to March 1, 2024.



NACDO-SBCC CHWs and CMVs in action performing a drama on the IRS acceptance Okambebe, Ongenga constituency.

Joint mothers and caregiver's engagement meetings

Three joint meetings were conducted on the borders of Namibia and Angola to engage mothers and caregivers in new areas of Odobe, Omundaungilo, and Oshikunde Constituency. Mothers and caregivers play a crucial role in the health of their children. A total of 136 mothers and caregivers were encouraged to seek early treatment for children under the age of 5 years to ensure that there is no delay in the treatment of malaria in young children, aiming to prevent malaria morbidity and mortality.



Savings with Education (SwE) and iECD 2023 Implementation Highlights

SwE Project Achievements New & continuing Savings Groups

New & continuing	Number of Groups	Number of Group Members	Total Number of Men in Groups	Total Number of Women in Groups
New Groups Formed 2023 Continuing	65	1482	227	1257
Continuing Groups Year 2 (Formed in 2022)	22	483	62	421
Continuing Groups Year 3 (Formed in 2021)	84	1971	309	1662
	171	1588	648	3340

The Total Group Savings for 2023 stands at N\$ 2 451 475.44 (\$129 166)

The project has also witnessed an increase in the total number of SwE Group Members expanding their businesses due to NACDO's engagement with the communities in economic empowerment activities, learning, group savings, and access to group funds and loans. The project comprises a total of 171 groups, with 3938 individuals benefiting from the project in various ways during 2023, including learning in businesses, savings, and access to loans.



Celebrations: Group Members during and after their Funds Distributions in Okaku – Oshana Region

iECD 2023 Implementation Highlights

Training of Faith Leaders on MTM: The project trained a total of 7 faith leaders during a 5-day training held in July 2023 in Oshakati. Various faith leaders, including pastors, youth leaders, Mothers Union leaders, and church secretaries, attended the training. The focus of the training was primarily on the role that faith leaders play in Early Childhood Development (ECD). Drawing from their wealth of experience in working with communities, different perspectives were shared on issues related to ECD, the fight against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), discipline, and male involvement in parenting. Faith leaders were also equipped with additional skills and information, which they expressed as an eye-opener, especially in their work with communities as faith leaders.



Faith Leaders during the Faith Leaders Training in Okatana.

ECD Committee Training

The ECD Committee Training was conducted for three days, where 13 ECD committee members were trained on their roles and responsibilities. The committee members had initially been oriented to the project, so they were already acquainted with the content before the training commenced. The discussions focused on their roles as champions, counselors, and connectors in promoting positive parenting and early childhood development in their communities.

The committee members also had an opportunity to review the structure, which consists of 15 members, including 1 Sunday school teacher, 1 retired teacher, 1 assistant headman, 2 pastors, and 1 youth leader.



ECD Committee members during Training in Ohendjeno, Omusati Region.



ECD Committee members during Training in Eembidi Ohangwena Region

Male Caregivers Engagement Meetings

Engaging men has been one of the challenges experienced since the implementation of the ECD project. However, during 2023, the project managed to involve male caregivers, with a total of 20 attending the sessions. These sessions allowed male caregivers to share their parenting experiences and the joys of being a father/caregiver. They expressed that their role as fathers involves ensuring the safety and well-being of their children, teaching them right from wrong, avoiding any form of abuse, taking them for walks and leisure activities, and ensuring the well-being of their pregnant partners. The project's goal has been to promote caregivers, both male and female, actively supporting and caring for their children, contributing to the holistic development of the children.



Male caregivers during the Male Engagement Meetings in Ohangwena and Omusati Region

Toy Making and Cooking Demonstration Sessions

During 2023, a total of 89 caregivers took part in the cooking demonstration sessions. Caregivers brought different traditional foods to the sessions, which they prepared and later shared with the children. This also gave them an opportunity to share the nutritional benefits that children derive from the meals they prepared, explaining the importance of providing children with a balanced diet and the benefits of producing their own food.

The sessions also included stakeholders from DAPP Namibia, where a group of ECD students played with the children and conducted a session for caregivers on the importance of play, nutrition, and the making of age-appropriate toys.



Scenes from the Cooking Demonstration as well as Play & Toy making sessions with Caregivers and Children

FOOD SECURITY

Participatory Assessment of Climate and Disaster Risks (PACDR) Training workshop

The workshop's objective was to systematically enable the Namibia Anglican Community Development Organization (NACDO) and Africa Co-operative Action Trust (ACAT) to integrate climate change into community planning and development. It aimed to detail the potential for improving the adaptive capacity of households and communities by implementing climate-friendly strategies and accounting for hazards, risks, global warming, and local responses.



Female group preparing their Hazard map. Photo: Elia A. Asino



Male group preparing their Seasonal calendar Photo: Elia Asino

The parties involved in the short project were Indigo Development and Change (INDIGO), NACDO from Namibia, and ACAT from Eswatini.



Two of the trainees presenting to the community Elia Asino (left) and Nomcebo Hleta (right)

The preparation of the PACDR process included getting to know the trainees, an intensive introduction to the PACDR process and the PACDR manual, distribution and explanation of handouts, questions & answers, organizational and logistical planning, translation of core terms into the local language, preparation of exercise posters, getting to know the village (documents, interviews with village representatives), and understanding the context (economic, ecological, climatic, physical, social, political, administrative). Initially, the process was designed to involve only three trainees from NACDO. Still, after discussions between INDIGO and BftW, it was decided to involve another BftW partner, ACAT, in the training process in Namibia.



At the end of the training, all participants received a certificate of completion.

Photo: Elia A. Asino

The PACDR On-Site Training Workshop successfully equipped participants with valuable insights into disaster resilience, climate change, hazard identification, adaptation strategies, and community action planning. Participants gained a deeper understanding of their local context through engaging in exercises and discussions and developed actionable plans to enhance disaster preparedness and resilience. The collaborative spirit of the workshop and the commitment of the PACDR team and community members promise a more resilient and prepared future for the community.

Rainwater Harvesting: Ground Surface Collection



Underground rainwater harvesting system establish in two villages as a demonstration and exemplar to the communities and the local stakeholders

Photo: Elia A. Asino

The NACDO Food Security Program introduced two exemplars of the Rainwater Ground Surface Collection system, which utilizes concrete surfaces to channel runoff water into an underground storage tank. This system can be applied to any natural or artificial ground surfaces, including certain types of rapidly installed artificial surfaces like plastic sheeting, especially during the rainy season. Typically, this type of rainwater catchment is more suited for long-term drought mitigation or groundwater recharge, as illustrated in the above picture where a 100 m² concrete catchment drains into a 20,000-liter underground tank during the rainy season.

The volume of water collected depends on the runoff coefficient, which is the ratio of the volume of rainwater that runs off the ground surface to the volume that falls on that surface. Artificial or enhanced catchments tend to be more costly due to the work needed to modify them, depending on the type of catchment and tank size.

The use of rainwater is a crucial aspect of climate change adaptation techniques and drought mitigation activities, contributing to increased water storage and control of groundwater table levels through managed aquifer recharge methods.

FLAME

In 2023, the Faith Leader Advocacy for Malaria Elimination (FLAME) initiative in Namibia achieved significant milestones and also meaningfully contributed to the fight against malaria in the country. FLAME operates through five regional chapters in the regions with the highest malaria-burden in Namibia, including Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Ohangwena, and Oshikoto Regions. FLAME also comprises a chapter in the Khomas region, which is a non-malarious region, but is nevertheless important for high-level advocacy owing to the centrally-based institutions of the state, civil society, and business.

FLAME achievements in 2023

Resource mobilization: FLAME and regional Malaria Elimination Task Forces (METF) worked together to advocate for increased allocation to the malaria constituency from the global fund country allocation through the NACCTUM / Country Coordinated Mechanism dialogue meetings. FLAME and METF successfully advocated for almost double of the initially allocated resources, from 8 percent to 14 percent with an increase of 6 percent for the 2024-2026 Global Fund grant.



Faith leaders, task force members and the lead consultant for the malaria proposal, convene during the second public dialogue of the GF grant writing process for the 2024-2026 cycle.

FLAME National Forum 2023: The country hosted its first annual forum since the inception of FLAME in the country, from, 6 to 8 June 2023 in Otjiwarongo, Namibia. The forum brought together 29 faith leaders (26 from the 6 flame chapters, 2 from Angola, and 1 from Zambia), 20 Malaria Elimination Task Force members, 4 from each five malaria regions, and representatives from the Namibian malaria programme and partner organisations. Participants shared valuable experiences, especially with FLAME and Ministry of Health representatives from neighboring countries Angola and Zambia. They also discussed their strategies for effective advocacy and resource mobilization for malaria in their countries.



CCN, CCM, and NVDCP Meetings: FLAME had a successful series of meetings with key stakeholders in Windhoek on 11 July 2023. Firstly, the National FLAME Coalition met with the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN), shared its core mandate, and explored opportunities for ongoing partnership, for example, the inclusion of FLAME in the CCN's bi-annual meetings with the Office of the President. Additionally, the Ministry of Health through the National Vector-borne Disease Control Program (NVDCP), requested FLAME to continue with its high-level advocacy efforts and Social Behavior Communication Change to their regional communities to support the acceptance of malaria interventions. Faith leaders also met with the Secretariat of the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria. The meeting focused on potential future opportunities for budget advocacy through the CCMs' activities in Namibia.



The National FLAME Coalition had fruitful discussions with the representatives of the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) on 11 July 2023 in Windhoek.



The National FLAME Coalition was welcomed for a meeting with the Malaria Programme Director and her team at the National Vector-borne Disease Control Programme (NVDCP) on 11 July in Windhoek.

Cross-Border Meetings: FLAME participated in the cross-border meetings held in Zambia on 26-27 July 2023, while Angola Kunene on 24-26 October 2023, and Cuando Cubango provinces on 19-22 June 2023. Six faith leaders attended the meetings the Ministry of Health staff recognized the valuable role FLAME holds in leading joint malaria activities across the neighboring countries (Namibia, Angola, and Zambia).

FLAME Learning Exchange: Four regional FLAME coalitions were in the Ohangwena region for the learning exchange program from 3 to 6 December 2023. It was attended by 14 faith leaders from Zambezi, Kavango West and Oshikoto, including the host region. It was a good interaction for the faith leaders from other regions for a learning exchange to see how the Ohangwena region has been implementing its malaria activities and FLAME advocacy efforts. Moreover, take-home lessons were learned from this exchange program and promises from other regions to implement most of the strategies that were observed as applicable in their regions.

FLAME Video: Four regions with FLAME coalitions were visited for filming to capture the key activities of FLAME for an advocacy video, these were the Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, and Ohangwena Regions. The documentary aims to provide a snapshot of the realities of the malaria burden in the northern and northeastern regions of Namibia, especially how people suffer from the disease, how this suffering impacts families, and how key stakeholders (including the government, FLAME, and malaria partners) in these regions are striving to eliminate the disease amidst a scarcity of resources. The video also aims to provide a call to action for decision-makers to get involved in the fight against malaria. The video will be distributed in 2024.